Pilot project for underground water

596. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a pilot project to map underground water in Kolar District of Karnataka has been completed;

(b) if so, what are the results thereof and the cost thereof;

(c) whether similar surveys for other districts would also be made; and

(d) if so, at what cost?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Groundwater potential map showing favourable areas for groundwater extraction has been prepared using Satellite Remote Sensing Data. The hydrogeomorphological features as derived from satellite data were used to identify potential areas of groundwater availability. The groundwater potential has been shown in four categories such as good, good to moderate, moderate and poor. This map also shows preliminary favourable sites for artificial groundwater recharge. The survey was carried out as part of an integrated land and water resources study involving six resource themes. In this particular caste the cost involved for the preparation of groundwater maps is estimated around rupees eighty thousand only since some data base was already available.

(c) Yes Sir. Under the drinking water technology mission, coordinated by Department of Rural Development, Ministry of Agriculture, ground-water potential maps are being prepared by Department of Space in collaboration with State Government Departments using Satellite Remote Sensing for fifty Districts. Out of the fifty districts groundwater potential maps have been completed for fourteen districts. In addition four states of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Maharashtra & Karnataka have been fully mapped for groundwater targetting. U.P. & Tamil Nadu have been partially mapped.

(d) For a typical district cost for integrated planning may be between rupees three to four lakhs approximately.

Appointment of Dassault of France for Designing of LCA

597. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have appointed the French firm M/s. Avions Marcel Dassault-Brequet Aviation (AMD-BA) in designing the LCA project;

(b) if so, what part of manufacturing of the LCA will be done by the French and what part will be Indian;

(c) whether the French will develop their LCA in Tandem with ours; and

(d) if so, whether Government's earlier idea of developing a eight tonne, single-engined LCA has been given up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) A contract has recently been signed with the French firm Avions Marcel Dassault—Brequet Aviation, only for giving consultancy during the Project Definition Phase of the LCA Project.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The French firm is currently engaged in the development of only a twin-engined combat aircraft, which does not come under the LCA class.

(d) No, Sir. The Government is pursuing development of the light-weight, single engined LCA.

Amount released to states for Drought Relief

398. SHRI JASWANT SINGH:

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has visited various States including Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Gujarat to study on spot severity of drought and if so, whether an assessment has been made as regard funds required to meet the situation for supplying food, work, drinking water and fodder for cattles and what is the quantum of demands made by Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka and others during 1986-87 and 1987-88 and amount so released during this period; and

(b) whether Government is aware that the criteria for relief to meet the drought situation needs to be reviewed in view of continuinty of drought during the last 3/4 seasons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir. In connection with the drought situation, the Minister of State has visited only States of Maharashtra and Karnataka. The detailed assessment of the severity of drought is made by Central team of officers, comprising experts representing different Departments. The Central teams have visited all the 15 drought-affected States and made their recommendations which were considered by the High Level Committee on Relief (HLCR). Based on these recommendations, Government have issued sanctions which are enclosed as Statement-II (*See* below). Statement-I (See below) gives the position regarding assistance sanctioned in 1986-87.

(b) The present norms for relief assistance are operative with effect from 1.7.1986. Except in relation to their application to severely drought-affected areas, the Government does not propose to revise these norms or criteria for deciding the basis for relief in drought affected areas.